

09/560,371

MS147249.01 / MSFTP102US

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1-7. (Cancelled).
8. (Currently amended) A system that facilitates modeling of business processes comprised of a plurality of business operations, comprising:  
a computer-readable medium; and  
a plurality of computer-executable files comprising:  
a scheduling component that employs a dataflow diagram to define a flow of business operations, the dataflow diagram includes actions coupled *via* data flowing between them, wherein the scheduling component employs XML programming language; and  
a binding component that ~~defines~~ binds the plurality of business operations through a schedule message, a port connection, a port and a message interface with a component outside of the schedule dataflow diagram, wherein the binding component employs XML programming language.
9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines technology specific information for binding business operations to at least one technological component.
10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component binds a single business operation to a plurality of technological components.

09/560,371

MS147249.01 / MSFTP102US

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, further comprising a binding file that provides port and message mapping between business operations and between business operations and technological components.

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines message structure and declares messages.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines context semantics.

14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, the binding component further defines schedule conditionals.

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 8, further including a second binding component that binds the business operations with a second component outside of the schedule dataflow diagram.

16. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating modeling of business processes comprised of a plurality of business operations, the system comprising a computer-readable medium and a plurality of computer-executable files comprising:

a scheduling component that defines the flow of business operations in a schedule, wherein the scheduling component is based in XML; and

a binding component that separates the schedule from implementations of a workflow and maps actions in the schedule to calls on at least one technological component, wherein the binding component is based in XML.

17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component binds a single business operation to a plurality of technological components.

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, business operations are actions connected by data flowing between them and actions are ports and messages wherein a

09/560,371

MS147249.01 / MSFTP102US

binding file provides virtual port and message mapping between business operations and between business operations and technological components.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines message structure and declares messages.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines context semantics.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, the binding component further defines schedule conditionals.

22. (Currently amended) A computer implemented business process scheduling software comprising:

a data flow module that allows a user to define a flow of business operations in a file that is utilized with a plurality of disparate business implementations, wherein the data flow module utilizes XML programming language; and

a binding module that allows a user to define a link between the file with business operations and the plurality of disparate business implementations, wherein the binding module utilizes XML programming language.

23. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the binding module further allowing the user to specify the business implementation to apply to a business process.

24. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the binding module further allowing the user to specify programmable semantics of the data flow module.

25. (Previously presented) The software of claim 22, the link is provided in a programmable language having XML syntax.

26-28. (Cancelled).